



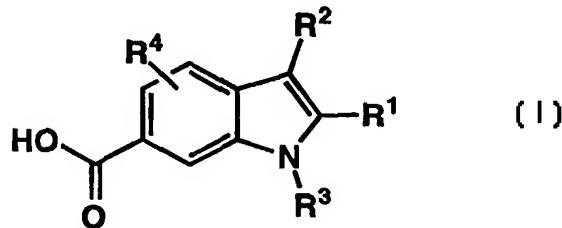
## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

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(54) Title: SOLID PHASE SYNTHESIS OF 2,3-DISUBSTITUTED INDOLE COMPOUNDS

## (57) Abstract

The present invention relates to novel substituted indole compounds of formula (I) having pharmacological activity, to processes for their preparation, to a combinatorial library and solid phase methods for preparing libraries of the compounds, to utilizing libraries of the compounds for drug discovery, and to pharmaceutical compositions thereof.



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## SOLID PHASE SYNTHESIS OF 2,3-DISUBSTITUTED INDOLE COMPOUNDS

5

**Field of the Invention**

The present invention relates to novel substituted indole compounds having pharmacological activity, to processes for their preparation, to combinatorial and solid 10 phase methods for preparing libraries of the compounds, to utilizing libraries of the compounds for drug discovery, and to pharmaceutical compositions thereof.

**Background of the Invention**

The solid phase synthesis of non-peptidic small organic molecules is a rapidly 15 evolving area of research with applications in the preparation of combinatorial libraries. While the solid phase synthesis of peptides is an established procedure, the solid phase synthesis of non-peptidic small organic molecules is still evolving (Hermkens, P. H. H.; Ottenheijm, H. C. J.; Rees, D. *Tetrahedron* **1996**, 52, 4527-4554). In particular, methods for the solid phase synthesis of heterocyclic ring systems of importance to 20 drug discovery is an active area of research.

Indoles are an important class of molecules with physiological significance and pharmaceutical utility. In synthetic and natural product chemistry, the indole ring system has broad pharmacological activity (Sundberg, R. J. in *Comprehensive Medicinal Chemistry*, Vol. 4, pp. 370-376; Pergamon Press: Oxford, 1984). An 25 example of the physiological significance of the indole ring system is serotonin, which is of overwhelming importance for normal psychological function. Two important pharmaceutical areas are anti-inflammatory drugs such as indomethacin and drugs acting on the central nervous system. Indoles have also found use in other therapeutic areas.

30 Combinatorial chemistry is becoming an important tool for drug discovery and lead optimization (Borman, S. *Chemical and Engineering News* **1997**, 75 (8), 43-62). A combinatorial synthesis requires that at least two components of the product molecules be independently variable, so that all of the combinations of these components can be prepared. A synthesis with three independently variable 35 components is preferable since greater diversity in structure can be produced in the resultant library. Thus, to prepare a combinatorial library of indoles with a high degree of potential diversity and wide utility for drug discovery using solid phase techniques,

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it is important to identify an indole synthesis in which three components can be independently varied. The solution phase synthesis of indoles reported by Arcadi and Cacchi (Arcadi, A.; Cacchi, S.; Marinelli, F. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1992**, *33*, 3915-3918) incorporates two components in an independent fashion through palladium-catalyzed processes. The indoles prepared by this route can then be alkylated on nitrogen to incorporate a third component. By adapting the solution phase synthesis to a solid-supported synthesis, it is possible to prepare combinatorial libraries of indoles at room temperature under neutral or mildly basic conditions and thus there are few limitations to the solid support and linker used.

10 A solid phase synthesis of indoles requiring elevated temperatures and acidic conditions has been reported (Hutchins, S. M.; Chapman, K. T. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1996**, *37*, 4869-4872). The solid-phase Fisher indole synthesis requires elevated temperatures and acidic conditions which limit the types of linkers and solid supports that can be used for the synthesis. Fagnola et al., *Tetrahedron Letters* **1997**, *38*, (13), 15 2307-2310, disclose a solid phase synthesis of 2-substituted indoles using the palladium-catalysed coupling of alkynes with N-acetyl iodoaniline derivatives. Only one variable group is introduced in the synthesis so it is not ideal for the preparation of combinatorial libraries.

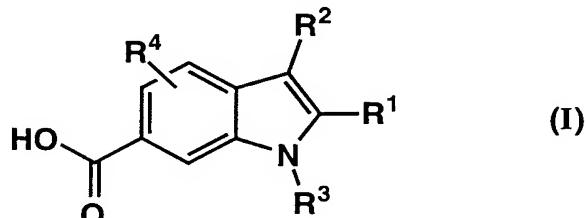
20 Multiple compounds can be prepared simultaneously by the solid phase process. The simultaneous solid phase synthesis of a library of 2,3-disubstituted indoles of the present invention is not known. The preparation of libraries of compounds of the present invention is useful because it provides rapid structural variation and structure-activity information.

25 The libraries of substituted indoles synthesized according to the present invention are useful for drug discovery. For example, screening one of the indole libraries in an estrogen receptor assay identified compounds with estrogen agonist activity. Estrogen agonists are useful as post-menopausal therapeutics for the prevention and treatment of osteoporosis, atherosclerosis, and Alzheimer's disease.

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### Brief Description of the Invention

Accordingly, the present invention discloses a solid phase synthesis process for producing compounds represented by the formula (I):

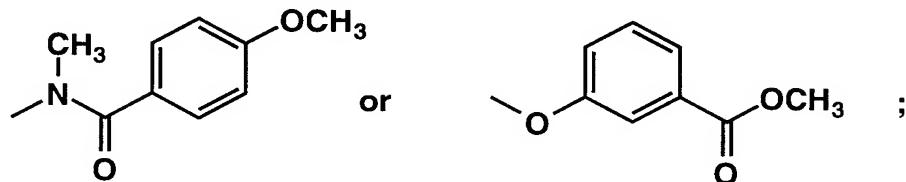


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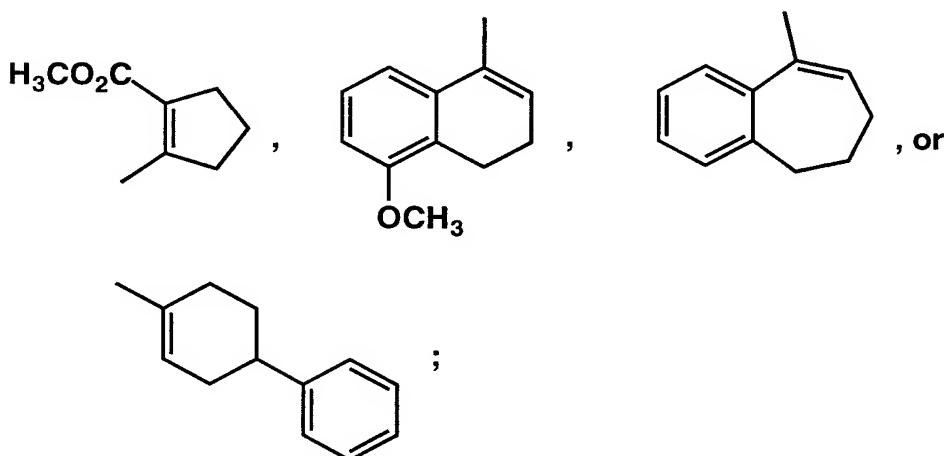
wherein:

R¹ is straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, branched chain alkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, phenyl, phenylalkyl of 7 to 12 carbon atoms, or straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms substituted with

10



R² is straight chain alkenyl of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, branched chain alkenyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkenyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, phenyl,



15

R³ is hydrogen, straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms optionally substituted with one COOR⁵, branched chain alkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, or phenylalkyl of 7 to 12 carbon atoms optionally substituted with one COOR⁵, phenyl, or acyl group;

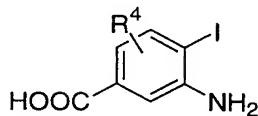
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$R^4$  is hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, bromo, nitro, straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, branched chain alkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, or alkoxy of 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

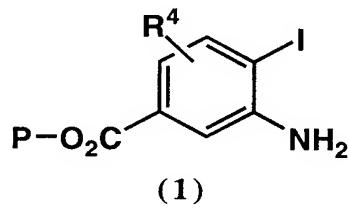
5  $R^5$  is hydrogen, straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or phenylalkyl of 7 to 12 carbon atoms;

and all crystalline forms and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, the enantiomers thereof, the racemic mixtures thereof, and the diastereomeric mixtures 10 thereof which comprises the steps of:

a) attaching a 3-amino-4-iodo-benzoic acid of the formula



15 or an alkaline metal salt thereof to a solid support **P** to produce a compound of formula (1)



20

wherein  $R^4$  is as defined above and **P** is preferably a polystyrene resin crosslinked with divinylbenzene and functionalized with a linker such as a hydroxymethylphenoxy group, and more preferably Wang's resin as described below; and

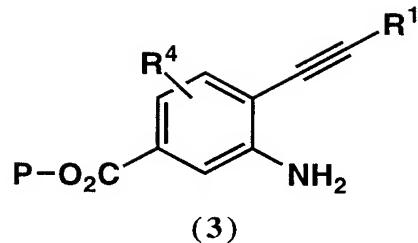
25 b) reacting said compound of formula (1) with a terminal alkyne of formula (2),



(2)

30 wherein  $R^1$  is as defined above, in the presence of a palladium catalyst, copper(I) iodide, and amine base in a polar aprotic solvent at ambient temperature to produce a compound of formula (3)

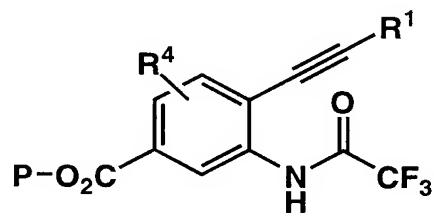
- 5 -



wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and P are as defined above; and

5

c) reacting said compound of formula (3) with trifluoroacetic anhydride and an amine base in dichloromethane to produce a compound of formula (4)

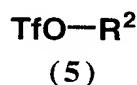


10

wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and P are as defined above; and

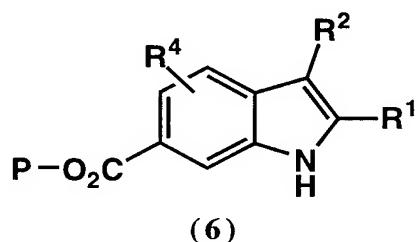
d) reacting said compound of formula (4) with a vinyl trifluoromethanesulfonate of formula (5)

15



wherein R<sup>2</sup> is as defined above, in the presence of a palladium catalyst and potassium carbonate in a polar aprotic solvent to produce a compound of formula (6)

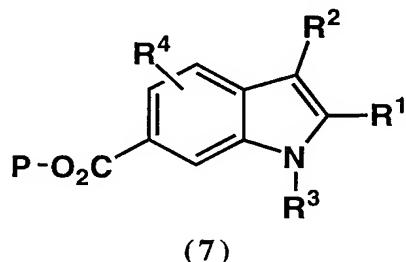
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wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and P are as defined above; and

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e) reacting said compound of formula (6) with an alkylating agent  $R^3X$ , where X is a suitable leaving group known to those skilled in the art, in the presence of sodium hydride in a polar aprotic solvent to produce a compound of formula (7)

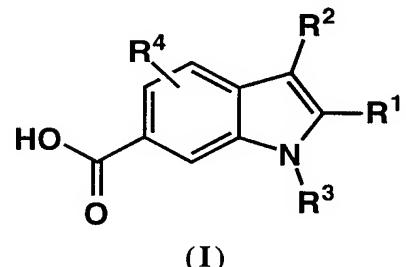


5

wherein  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ , and  $P$  are as defined above; and

f) reacting said compound of formula (7) with a cleaving reagent such as trifluoroacetic acid to produce a compound of formula (I)

10



wherein  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ , and  $R^4$  are as defined above.

15

The term "phenylalkyl of 7 to 12 carbon atoms" which appears in the definitions of  $R^1-R^5$  refers to the group "phenyl-( $CH_2$ )<sub>n</sub>—" where n is 1 to 6.

20 The most preferred aspects of the present invention are the solid phase synthesis processes for producing:

2-butyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

2-butyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1-methyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

25 2-butyl-1-ethoxycarbonylmethyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

2-butyl-1-carboxymethyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

2-butyl-1-(4-methoxycarbonyl-benzyl)-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

1-biphenyl-4-ylmethyl-2-butyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

5 2-cyclopentyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

2-cyclopentyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1-methyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

10 2-cyclopentyl-1-ethoxycarbonylmethyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

15 1-carboxymethyl-2-cyclopentyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

20 2-cyclopentyl-1-(4-methoxycarbonyl-benzyl)-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

25 1-biphenyl-4-ylmethyl-2-cyclopentyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

30 3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-phenyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

35 3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

40 1-ethoxycarbonylmethyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-phenyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

45 1-carboxymethyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-phenyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

50 1-(4-methoxycarbonyl-benzyl)-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-phenyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

55 1-biphenyl-4-ylmethyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-phenyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

60 3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-phenethyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

65 3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1-methyl-2-phenethyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

70 1-ethoxycarbonylmethyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-phenethyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

75 1-carboxymethyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-phenethyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

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1-(4-methoxycarbonyl-benzyl)-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-phenethyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

1-biphenyl-4-ylmethyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-phenethyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

5 3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-[3-(3-methoxycarbonyl-phenoxy)-propyl]-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-[3-(3-methoxycarbonyl-phenoxy)-propyl]-1-methyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

10 1-ethoxycarbonylmethyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-[3-(3-methoxycarbonyl-phenoxy)-propyl]-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

1-carboxymethyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-[3-(3-methoxycarbonyl-phenoxy)-propyl]-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable

15 salt thereof;

1-(4-methoxycarbonyl-benzyl)-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-[3-(3-methoxycarbonyl-phenoxy)-propyl]-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

20 1-biphenyl-4-ylmethyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-[3-(3-methoxycarbonyl-phenoxy)-propyl]-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

25 2-{[(4-methoxy-benzoyl)-methyl-amino]-methyl}-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

2-{[(4-methoxy-benzoyl)-methyl-amino]-methyl}-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1-methyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable

30 salt thereof;

1-ethoxycarbonylmethyl-2-{[(4-methoxy-benzoyl)-methyl-amino]-methyl}-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

35 1-carboxymethyl-2-{[(4-methoxy-benzoyl)-methyl-amino]-methyl}-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

2-{[(4-methoxy-benzoyl)-methyl-amino]-methyl}-1-(4-methoxycarbonyl-benzyl)-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

1-biphenyl-4-ylmethyl-2-{{(4-methoxy-benzoyl)-methyl-amino}-methyl}-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

2-butyl-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

5 2-butyl-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-1-methyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

2-butyl-1-ethoxycarbonylmethyl-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

10 2-butyl-1-carboxymethyl-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

2-butyl-1-(4-methoxycarbonyl-benzyl)-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

15 3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-2-phenyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-1-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

1-ethoxycarbonylmethyl-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-2-phenyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

20 1-carboxymethyl-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-2-phenyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

1-(4-methoxycarbonyl-benzyl)-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-2-phenyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-2-phenethyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

25 3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-1-methyl-2-phenethyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

1-ethoxycarbonylmethyl-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-2-phenethyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

30 1-carboxymethyl-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-2-phenethyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

1-(4-methoxycarbonyl-benzyl)-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-2-phenethyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

35 2-[3-(3-methoxycarbonyl-phenoxy)-propyl]-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

- 10 -

2-[3-(3-methoxycarbonyl-phenoxy)-propyl]-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-1-methyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

5 1-ethoxycarbonylmethyl-2-[3-(3-methoxycarbonyl-phenoxy)-propyl]-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

10 1-carboxymethyl-2-[3-(3-methoxycarbonyl-phenoxy)-propyl]-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

15 1-(4-methoxycarbonyl-benzyl)-2-[3-(3-methoxycarbonyl-phenoxy)-propyl]-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

20 2-{{(4-methoxy-benzoyl)-methyl-amino]-methyl}-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

25 2-{{(4-methoxy-benzoyl)-methyl-amino]-methyl}-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

30 2-butyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

35 2-butyl-1-methyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

2-butyl-1-carboxymethyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

2-butyl-1-(4-methoxycarbonyl-benzyl)-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

2-cyclopentyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

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2-cyclopentyl-1-methyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

2-cyclopentyl-1-ethoxycarbonylmethyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

5 1-carboxymethyl-2-cyclopentyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof

2-cyclopentyl-1-(4-methoxycarbonyl-benzyl)-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

10 2-phenyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

1-methyl-2-phenyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

15 1-ethoxycarbonylmethyl-2-phenyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

1-(4-methoxycarbonyl-benzyl)-2-phenyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

20 2-phenethyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

1-methyl-2-phenethyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

1-ethoxycarbonylmethyl-2-phenethyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

25 1-carboxymethyl-2-phenethyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

1-(4-methoxycarbonyl-benzyl)-2-phenethyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

2-[3-(3-methoxycarbonyl-phenoxy)-propyl]-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

30 2-[3-(3-methoxycarbonyl-phenoxy)-propyl]-1-methyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

1-carboxymethyl-2-[3-(3-methoxycarbonyl-phenoxy)-propyl]-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

35 1-(4-methoxycarbonyl-benzyl)-2-[3-(3-methoxycarbonyl-phenoxy)-propyl]-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

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2-{[(4-methoxy-benzoyl)-methyl-amino]-methyl}-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof

2-{[(4-methoxy-benzoyl)-methyl-amino]-methyl}-1-methyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

5 1-carboxymethyl-2-{[(4-methoxy-benzoyl)-methyl-amino]-methyl}-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

2-{[(4-methoxy-benzoyl)-methyl-amino]-methyl}-1-(4-methoxycarbonyl-benzyl)-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10

It is understood that the definition of the compounds of formula (I), when R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, and R<sup>4</sup> contain asymmetric carbons, encompasses all possible stereoisomers and mixtures thereof. In particular, it encompasses racemic modifications and any optical isomers. Optical isomers may be obtained in pure form by standard separation techniques. The pharmaceutically acceptable salts are those derived from such organic and inorganic acids as: lactic, citric, acetic, tartaric, succinic, maleic, malonic, hydrochloric, hydrobromic, phosphoric, nitric, sulfuric, methanesulfonic, and similarly known acceptable acids. Carboxylic acid salts of the compounds of this invention may be formed with bases such as alkali metals (Na, K, Li) or the alkaline earth metals (Ca or Mg).

15

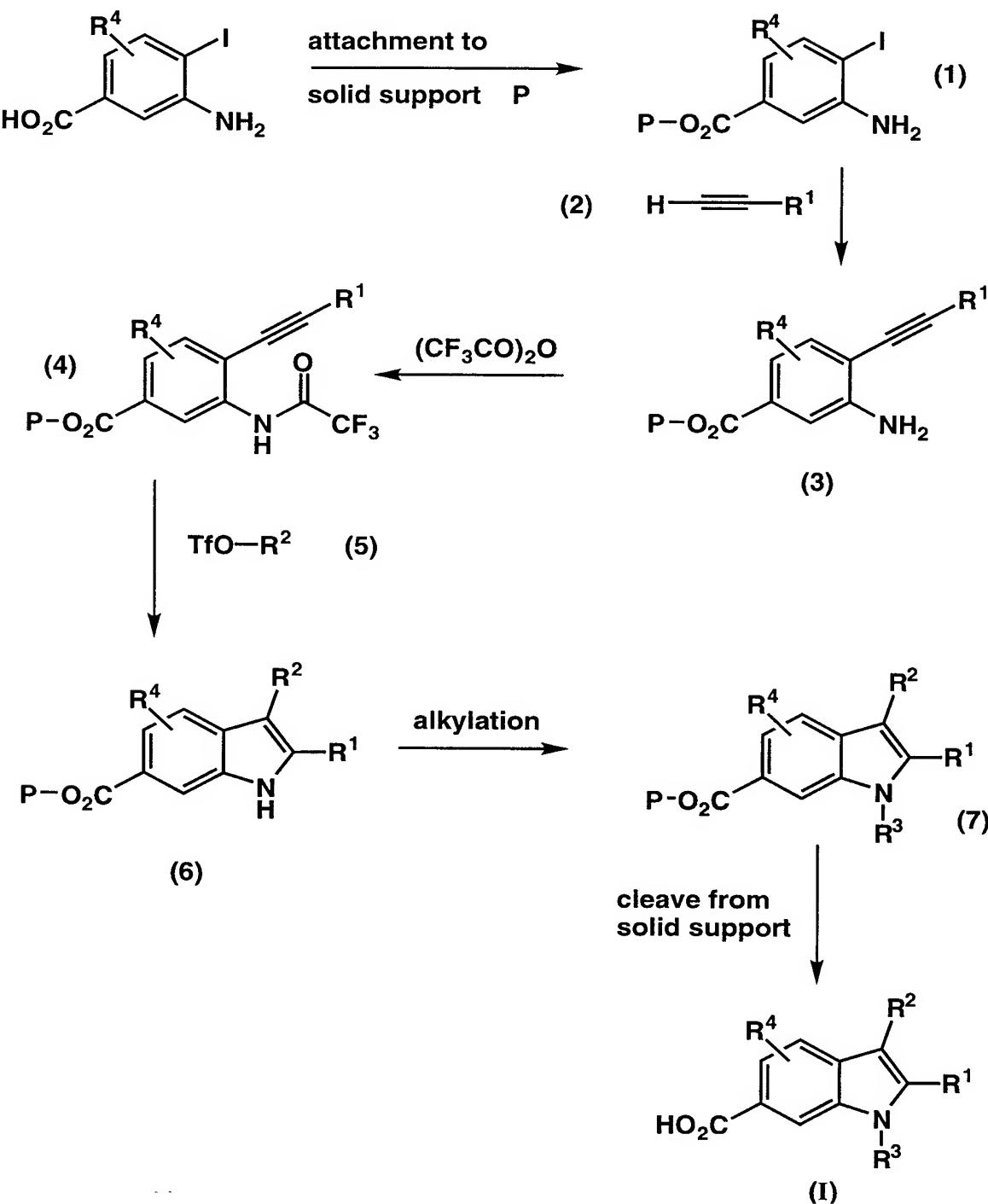
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Process of the Invention

The compounds of the present invention may be prepared according to the general process outlined below in Scheme I.

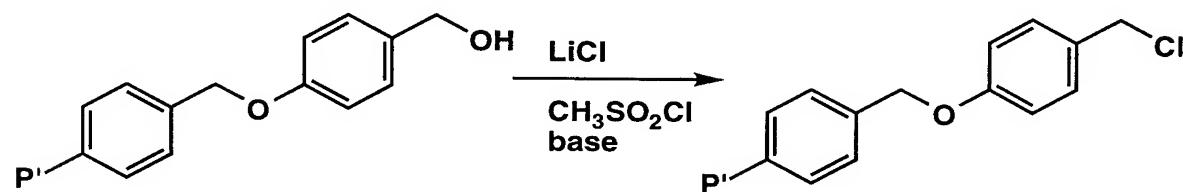
5

**Scheme I**

Thus, a substituted 3-amino-4-iodobenzoic acid is attached to the preferred solid support **P**, a resin of polystyrene crosslinked with divinylbenzene and with a linker such as 4-hydroxymethylphenoxy, most preferably Wang's resin as described below,

5 in the presence of a coupling reagent such as diisopropylcarbodiimide to produce a compound of formula (1). Alternatively, a resin such as Wang resin (Su-Sun Wang, Journal of the American Chemical Society **95**(4), 1338-1333, 1973, compound III) is converted to a chloro resin (Scheme II) with lithium chloride, methanesulfonyl chloride, and a base such as collidine or lutidine in a polar aprotic solvent such as 10 dimethylformamide and subsequently reacted with an alkaline metal salt, preferably the cesium salt, of a substituted 3-amino-4-iodobenzoic acid to produce a compound of formula (1).

**Scheme II**



A compound of formula (1) is reacted with a terminal alkyne of formula (2) in the presence of a palladium catalyst, copper(I) iodide, and an amine base in a polar aprotic solvent such as dimethylformamide to yield a compound of formula (3), which 20 is trifluoroacetylated to yield a compound of formula (4). A compound of formula (4) is reacted with a vinyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (5), a palladium catalyst, and potassium carbonate in a polar aprotic solvent such as dimethylformamide to produce a compound of formula (6). A compound of formula (6) is alkylated with an alkylating agent such as an alkyl iodide or an arylalkyl bromide in the presence of a base such as 25 sodium hydride in a polar aprotic solvent such as dimethylformamide to produce a compound of formula (7). The compound of formula (I) wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, and R<sup>4</sup> are as defined above is removed from the solid support **P** with an acidic cleavage mixture such as trifluoroacetic acid in dichloromethane.

The present invention accordingly provides a pharmaceutical composition which 30 comprises a compound of this invention in combination or association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In particular, the present invention provides a pharmaceutical composition which comprises an effective amount of a compound of this invention and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

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The compositions are preferably adapted for oral administration. However, they may be adapted for other modes of administration such as parenteral administration.

In order to obtain consistency of administration, it is preferred that a composition of the invention is in the form of a unit dose. Suitable unit dose forms include tablets, capsules and powders in sachets or vials. Such unit dose forms may contain from 0.1 to 100 mg of a compound of the invention and preferably from 2 to 50 mg. Still further preferred unit dosage forms contain 5 to 25 mg of a compound of the present invention. The compounds of the present invention can be administered orally at a dose range of about 0.01 to 100 mg/kg or preferably at a dose range of 0.1 to 10 mg/kg. The actual dosage used on an individual shall be determined by a physician following standard medical principles. Conventionally one begins with a low dosage and increases the dosage until a satisfactory pharmacological effect is obtained. Such compositions may be administered from 1 to 6 times a day, more usually from 1 to 4 times a day.

The compositions of the invention may be formulated with conventional excipients, such as a filler, a disintegrating agent, a binder, a lubricant, a flavoring agent and the like. They are formulated in conventional manner, for example, in a manner similar to that use for known antihypertensive agents, diuretics and  $\beta$ -blocking agents.

The present invention further provides a compound of the invention for use as an active therapeutic substance.

#### **Estrogen Receptor Assay: 2X VIT ERE Transfection Assay**

25      Objective: To identify compounds that enhance the expression of luciferase gene activity compared to  $17\beta$ -estradiol in a transient transfection model. Enhancement of luciferase gene expression in this model is dependent upon estrogen receptor (ER) interaction with a vitellogenin gene estrogen responsive element (ERE) capable of 30 enhancing basal promoter activity. This is a sensitive and rapid methodology to assess estrogenic/antiestrogenic potency of compounds.

35      Procedure: Cell Maintenace and treatment: Chinese Hamster Ovary cells (CHO) which have been stably transfected with the human estrogen receptor are maintained in DMEM + 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS). 48 h prior to treatment the growth medium is replaced with DMEM lacking phenol red + 10% dextran coated charcoal stripped FBS (treatment medium). Cells are plated at a density of 5000 cells/well in 96-well plates containing 200  $\mu$ L of medium/well.

Calcium Phosphate Transfection: Reporter DNA (Promega plasmid pGL2 containing two tandem copies of the vitellogenin ERE in front of the minimal thymidine kinase promoter driving the luciferase gene) is combined with the  $\beta$ -galactosidase expression plasmid pCH110 (Pharmacia) and carrier DNA (pTZ18U) in the following 5 ratio: 10  $\mu$ g of reporter DNA, 5  $\mu$ g of pCH110 DNA, 5  $\mu$ g of pTZ18U, and 20  $\mu$ g of DNA/1 mL of transfection solution. The DNA (20  $\mu$ g) is dissolved in 500  $\mu$ L of 250 mM sterile  $\text{CaCl}_2$  which is then slowly (dropwise) added to 500  $\mu$ L of 2x HeBS (0.28 M NaCl, 50 mM HEPES, 1.5 mM  $\text{Na}_2\text{HPO}_4$ , pH 7.05) and incubated at room 10 temperature for 20 min. 20  $\mu$ L of this mixture is added to each well of cells and remains on the cells for 16 h. At the end of this incubation the precipitate is removed, the cells are washed with media, fresh treatment media is replaced and the cells are treated with either vehicle, 1 nM 17 $\beta$ -estradiol, 1  $\mu$ M compound or 1  $\mu$ M compound +1 nM 17 $\beta$ -estradiol. Each treatment condition is performed on 8 wells (n=8) which are 15 incubated for 24 h prior to luciferase assay.

Luciferase Assay: After 24 h exposure to compounds, the media is removed and each well is washed 2x with 125  $\mu$ L of PBS lacking  $\text{Mg}^{++}$  and  $\text{Ca}^{++}$ . After removing the PBS, 25  $\mu$ L of Promega lysis buffer is added to each well and allowed to stand at room temperature for 15 min, followed by 15 min at -80°C and 15 min at 37°C. 20  $\mu$ L of lysate is transferred to an opaque 96-well plate for luciferase activity 20 evaluation and the remaining lysate (5  $\mu$ L) is used for  $\beta$ -galactosidase activity evaluation (normalize transfection). The luciferan substrate (Promega) added is 100  $\mu$ L aliquots to each well automatically by the luminometer and the light produced (relative light units) is read 10 seconds after addition. The data is logged and automatically sent to a JMP 25 statistical program for analysis. A hard copy printout is also produced at the time of the assay.

$\beta$ -galactosidase Assay: To the remaining 5  $\mu$ L of lysate 45  $\mu$ L of PBS is added. 50 ul of Promega  $\beta$ -galactosidase 2x assay buffer is added, mixed well and incubated at 37°C for 1 h. A plate containing a standard curve (0.1 to 1.5 milliunits in triplicate) is set up for each experimental run. The plates are analyzed on a Molecular Devices 30 spectrophotometric plate reader at 410 nm. The optical densities for the unknowns are converted to milliunits of activity by mathematical extrapolation from the standard curve.

Analysis of Results: The luciferase data is generated as relative light units (RLUs) accumulated during a 10 second measurement and is automatically transferred to a JMP 35 (SAS Inc) file where background RLUs are subtracted. The  $\beta$ -galactosidase values are automatically imported into the file and these values are divided into the RLUs to normalize the data. The mean and standard deviation is determined from a n=8 for each

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treatment. Compound activity is compared to 17 $\beta$ -estradiol for each plate. Percentage of activity as compared to 17 $\beta$ -estradiol is calculated as follows:

$$\% = ((\text{Estradiol value-control value}) / (\text{compound value})) \times 100$$

For example, at a concentration of 1  $\mu$ M, the compound 1-ethoxycarbonyl-5-methyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-phenyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid had 25% of the activity of 17 $\beta$ -estradiol (at 1 nM) and is therefore estrogenic.

Reference Compounds: Various reference compounds (1  $\mu$ M) were assessed for estrogenic and/or antiestrogenic activity (1  $\mu$ M compound + 1 nM 17 $\beta$ -estradiol) by assaying for luciferase activity and corresponding % values compared to 1 nM 17 $\beta$ -estradiol (set to 100%) were calculated. Note there are three orders of magnitude difference in the dose of reference compounds versus 17 $\beta$ -estradiol concentration:

	17 $\beta$ -estradiol	100% activity
	estriol	38% activity
15	estrone	40% activity
	tamoxifen (+ 1 nM estradiol)	< 5% activity, (10%)
	raloxifene (+ 1 nM estradiol)	< 5% activity, (0%)

At 1  $\mu$ M dosages the estriol and estrone would be expected to be about 40% as potent as 17 $\beta$ -estradiol in this assay versus the alkaline phosphatase response in Ishikawa cells (Procedure 1501) which is a more complex biological series of events. The lack of independent activity and antiestrogenic activity of tamoxifen and raloxifene was as predicted as consistent with reports in the literature relating to their effects in a rat uterotrophic assay.

25 Reference: Tzukerman, M.T., Esty, A., Santiso-Mere, D., Danielian, P., Parker, M.G., Stein, R.B., Pike, J.W. and McDonnell, D.P. Human estrogen receptor transactivational capacity is determined by both cellular and promoter context and mediated by two functionally distinct intramolecular regions. *Molecular Endocrinology* **1994**, 8, 21-30.

30 Specific procedures are described in the following experimental examples. These examples are given to illustrate the invention and should not be construed as limiting the invention set forth in the appended claims.

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Example 1

**Preparation of 4-(1-Hexynyl)-3-trifluoroacetamido-benzoic Acid on Wang Resin**

5    **Step 1: Chloro-Wang Resin**

A mixture of Wang resin (Wang, *S. J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1973**, *95*, 1328-1333) (Advanced ChemTech 200-400 mesh, 1% crosslinked; loading: 0.92 mmol/g; 10 15.0 g, 0.011 mol), LiCl (1.4 g, 0.033 mol) and DMF (150 mL) was magnetically stirred for 40 min. Collidine (4.0 g, 0.033 mol) was added and the mixture was cooled (0-5 °C) with an ice bath. Methanesulfonyl chloride (3.8 g, 0.033 mol) was added over 5 min. After 10 min, the cooling bath was removed and stirring was continued for 68 h. The mixture was filtered and the resin was washed with DMF (250 mL), 30% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF ((2 x 300 mL), DMF (2 x 250 mL), EtOH (3 x 250 mL), CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x 300 15 mL), and hexane (2 x 250 mL). The resin was dried over P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> *in vacuo* to give 14.3 g; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 46.22 (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl); IR (KBr) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2900, 1600, 1520, 1485, 1450.

**Step 2: Attachment of 3-Amino-4-iodobenzoic acid to Wang Resin**

20    To a stirred suspension of 3-amino-4-iodobenzoic acid in EtOH (100 mL) was added Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (7.5 g, 0.023 mol) and water (30 mL). The solution was concentrated, and azetroped with 3:1 toluene/EtOH and toluene (150 mL) to give 18.7 g of the cesium salt of 3-amino-4-iodobenzoic acid as a white solid. A mixture of chloro-Wang 25 resin (27.1 g), prepared as described in step 1 above, cesium salt (18.7 g) and DMF (350 mL) was heated to 50-60 °C for 2.5 days. The mixture was filtered and washed with DMF (2 x 200 mL), water (2 x 200 mL), DMF (2 x 200 mL), EtOH (2 x 200 mL), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The resin was dried *in vacuo* to give 30.0 g; IR (KBr) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1700 (ester CO).

30    Anal. calc'd for N:    1.05%;  
Found:                    1.30%.

To determine the loading, a sample of resin (300 mg) was stirred with 50% TFA/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> for 3 h, filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated to give 56 mg (95%) of 3-amino-4-iodobenzoic acid. Resin loading: 0.71 mmol/g.

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**Step 3: Reaction with 1-Hexyne and Trifluoroacetylation**

To a mixture of 3-amino-4-iodobenzoic acid on Wang resin (loading 0.6 mmol/g; 3.0 g, 1.8 mmol) and 1-hexyne (0.74 g, 9.0 mmol) in DMF (40 mL) was 5 added bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(II) chloride (0.20 g, 0.28 mmol) and CuI (0.1 g, 0.52 mmol). The mixture was stirred magnetically for 2 h, filtered, and washed with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . The resin was suspended in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (40 mL), cooled (0 °C), and pyridine (1.5 mL) and trifluoroacetic anhydride (2.6 mL) were added. After 2 h, the mixture was filtered, washed with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , and dried.

10 To confirm that the reactions occurred, 100 mg of resin was treated with 50% TFA/  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  for 3 h, filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated to give 9.8 mg of 4-(1-hexynyl)-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic acid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  0.95 (t, 3 H), 1.50 (m, 4 H), 2.95 (m, 2 H), 7.60 (d, 1 H), 7.85 (d, 1 H), 7.90 (s, 1 H), 11.20 (s, 1 H). Anal. calc'd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_3$ : C, 57.51; H, 4.50; N, 4.47; 15 Found: C, 57.20; H, 4.38; N, 4.46.

**Example 2**

**Preparation of 4-Cyclopentylacetylenyl-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic Acid on Wang Resin**

20 The resin product was prepared according to Step 3 of Example 1 from 3-amino-4-iodobenzoic acid on Wang resin and cyclopentylacetylene.

A sample of resin was treated with 50% TFA/  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  as in Step 3 of Example 1 to yield 4-cyclopentylacetylenyl-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic acid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  1.65 (m, 6 H), 1.95 (m, 2 H), 2.91 (t,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.59 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 1 H), 7.86 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 1 H), 7.91 (s, 1 H), 11.13 (s, 1 H).

**Example 3**

**Preparation of 4-(2-Phenylacetylenyl)-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic Acid on Wang Resin**

The resin product was prepared according to Step 3 of Example 1 from 3-amino-4-iodobenzoic acid on Wang resin and phenylacetylene.

A sample of resin was treated with 50% TFA/  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  as in Step 3 of Example 35 1 to yield 4-(2-phenylacetylenyl)-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic acid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.50 (m, 5 H), 7.79 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 1 H), 7.95 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 1 H), 8.00 (s, 1 H), 11.42 (s, 1 H), 13.40 (br s, 1 H).

Anal. calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{10}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_3$ : C, 61.27; H, 3.02; N, 4.20; 30 Found: C, 59.73; H, 2.76; N, 4.06.

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Example 4

**Preparation of 4-[(4-Phenyl)-1-butynyl]-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic Acid on Wang Resin**

5

The resin product was prepared according to Step 3 of Example 1 from 3-amino-4-iodobenzoic acid on Wang resin and 4-phenyl-1-butyne.

A sample of resin was treated with 50% TFA/ CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as in Step 3 of Example 1 to yield 4-[(4-phenyl)-1-butynyl]-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic acid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  2.75 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2 H), 2.85 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.29 (m, 5 H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1 H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1 H), 7.93 (s, 1 H), 11.18 (s, 1 H).

Example 5

**Preparation of 4-[(5-(3-Carbomethoxy)phenoxy)-1-pentynyl]-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic Acid on Wang Resin**

15

The resin product was prepared according to Step 3 of Example 1 from 3-amino-4-iodobenzoic acid on Wang resin and 5-[(3-carbomethoxy)phenoxy]-1-pentyne.

20

A sample of resin was treated with 50% TFA/ CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as in Step 3 of Example 1 to yield 4-[(5-(3-carbomethoxy)phenoxy)-1-pentynyl]-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic acid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  2.00 (m, 2 H), 2.66 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2 H), 3.84 (s, 3 H), 4.15 (t, *J* = 5.7 Hz), 7.23 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.44 (m, 2 H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1 H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1 H), 7.93 (s, 1 H), 11.20 (s, 1 H).

25

Example 6

**Preparation of 4-[(3-(N-Methyl-N-(4-methoxybenzoyl)-amino)-1-propynyl]-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic Acid on Wang Resin**

30

The resin product was prepared according to Step 3 of Example 1 from 3-amino-4-iodobenzoic acid on Wang resin and N-methyl-N-(4-methoxybenzoyl)-propargylamine.

A sample of resin was treated with 50% TFA/ CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as in Step 3 of Example 1 to yield 4-[(3-(N-Methyl-N-(4-methoxybenzoyl)-amino)-1-propynyl]-3-trifluoroacetamido-benzoic acid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  3.03 (s, 3 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1 H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1 H), 7.95 (s, 1 H), 11.33 (s, 1 H).

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Example 7

**Parallel Synthesis of Six Indole Compounds**

5 Six compounds were synthesized in parallel in a HPS-1 multiple peptide synthesizer (CoshiSoft/PeptiSearch, Tuscon, AZ). One of each of the resins prepared according to Examples 1-6 was placed in a reaction vessel in the synthesizer (100 mg per vessel, 0.06 mmol): 4-(1-hexynyl)-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic acid on Wang resin in vessel 1; 4-cyclopentylacetylenyl-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic acid on Wang resin in vessel 2; 4-(2-phenylacetylenyl)-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic acid on Wang resin in vessel 3; 4-[(4-phenyl)-1-butynyl]-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic acid on Wang resin in vessel 4; 4-[(5-(3-carbomethoxy)phenoxy)-1-pentynyl]-3-trifluoroacetamido-benzoic acid on Wang resin in vessel 5; and 4-[(3-(N-methyl-N-(4-methoxybenzoyl)-amino)-1-propynyl]-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic acid on Wang resin in vessel 6. To 10 each vessel was added potassium carbonate (70 mg), a solution of (2-carboxymethyl)-1-cyclopentenyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (82 mg, 0.30 mmol; prepared according to Piers et al. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1984**, 25, 3155) in dimethylformamide (1.0 mL), and a solution of tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) in dimethylformamide (1.0 mL). The synthesizer was rotated at room temperature on a Roto-Torque heavy duty rotator 15 (Cole-Parmer) for 18 h. The mixtures were filtered and the resin in each vessel was washed with water (1 x 1.5 mL), dimethylformamide (3 x 1.5 mL), and dichloromethane (4 x 1.5 mL). The resins were dried under vacuum.

20

The products were cleaved from the solid support according to the following 25 procedure. To each vessel was added 3:1 trifluoroacetic acid/dichloromethane (1.5 mL). The HPS-1 synthesizer was left standing for 1 h, and the solutions were filtered into 1 dram vials. The resin in each vessel was washed with dichloromethane (1 mL) and diethyl ether (1 mL). The solutions were concentrated under a nitrogen stream and dried over  $P_2O_5$  under vacuum.

30 Spectral data for individual compounds:

Example 7-1

**2-Butyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclo-pent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic Acid**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  0.85 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H), 1.24 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 1.61 (m, 2 H), 1.95 (m, 2 H), 2.62 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 2.75 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 2.82 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 3.45 (s, 3 H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.54, J = 8.3, 0.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.90 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 1 H), 11.44 (s, 1 H); MS: (CI) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> m/z = 342.

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Example 7-2

**2-Cyclopentyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic Acid**

5       $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  1.66 (m, 4 H), 1.81 (m, 2 H), 1.96 (m, 4 H), 2.76 (m, 4 H),  
3.06 (m, 1 H), 3.43 (s, 3 H), 7.23 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.53 (dd,  $J$  = 8.3, 1.1 Hz, 1 H), 7.92 (d,  $J$  = 1.1 Hz, 1 H), 11.30 (s, 1 H); MS: (EI)  $M^{+}$  m/z = 353.

Example 7-3

**3-(2-Methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-phenyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic Acid**

10      $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  1.92 (m, 2 H), 2.63 (t,  $J$  = 5.5 Hz, 2 H), 2.76 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 3.29 (s, 3 H), 7.28 (d,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.39 (m, 1 H), 7.49 (m, 2 H), 7.60 (m, 3 H), 8.02 (d,  $J$  = 0.9 Hz, 1 H), 11.90 (s, 1 H); MS: (CI)  $[M+H]^+$  m/z = 362.

15     Example 7-4

**3-(2-Methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-phenethyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic Acid**

20      $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  1.87 (m, 2 H), 2.60 (m, 2 H), 2.72 (t,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 2 H), 2.93 (m, 4 H), 3.46 (s, 3 H), 7.09 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.14 (m, 1 H), 7.22 (m, 2 H), 7.28 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.54 (dd,  $J$  = 8.3, 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.92 (d,  $J$  = 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 11.59 (s, 1 H); MS: (EI)  $M^{+}$  m/z = 389.

Example 7-5

**3-(2-Methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-[3-(3-methoxycarbonyl-phenoxy)-propyl]-1H-indole-6-carboxylic Acid**

25      $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  1.80 (m, 2 H), 2.08 (m, 2 H), 2.56 (m, 2 H), 2.72 (m, 2 H), 2.85 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 3.40 (s, 3 H), 3.82 (s, 3 H), 3.92 (t,  $J$  = 5.9 Hz, 2 H), 7.15 (m, 1 H), 7.22 (d,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.35 (m, 1 H), 7.40 (m, 1 H), 7.52 (m, 2 H), 7.91 (d,  $J$  = 0.9 Hz, 1 H), 11.54 (s, 1 H); MS: (EI)  $M^{+}$  m/z = 477.

30

Example 7-6

**2-[(4-Methoxy-benzoyl)-methyl-amino]-methyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic Acid**

35      $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  1.93 (m, 2 H), 2.73 (m, 2 H), 2.78 (s, 3 H), 3.51 (m, 2 H), 3.77 (s, 6 H), 4.65 (m, 2 H), 6.97 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 7.39 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.43 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 7.58 (dd,  $J$  = 8.3, 0.7 Hz, 1 H), 8.04 (d,  $J$  = 0.7 Hz, 1 H), 11.50 (br s, 2 H); MS: (EI)  $M^{+}$  m/z = 462.

## Example 8

**2-Phenyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic Acid**5 **Step 1: 4-Phenylcyclohex-1-enyl Trifluoromethanesulfonate**

The title compound was prepared from 4-phenylcyclohexanone according to the procedure of Piers et al. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1984**, 25, 3155;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  1.95 (m, 2 H), 2.35 (m, 3 H), 2.50 (m, 1 H), 2.81 (m, 1 H), 5.79 (t,  $J$  = 2.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.22 (m, 1 H), 7.29 (m, 5 H).

10

**Step 2: 2-Phenyl-3-(4-phenyl-cyclohex-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic Acid**

The title compound was prepared according to the procedure outlined in Example 7, employing 4-(2-phenylacetylenyl)-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic acid on

15

Wang resin (prepared according to Example 3) and 4-phenylcyclohex-1-enyl trifluoromethanesulfonate;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  1.90 (m, 2 H), 2.40 (m, 3 H), 3.00 (m, 1 H), 5.90 (m, 1 H), 7.20 (m, 1 H), 7.30 (m, 5 H), 7.50 (m, 2 H), 7.75 (m, 5 H), 7.95 (m, 1 H), 11.60 (s, 1 H).

20

## Example 9

**2-Butyl-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic Acid**25 **Step 1: 5-Methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl Trifluoromethanesulfonate**

The title compound was prepared from 5-methoxy-3,4-dihydronaphthalene-1-one according to the procedure of Piers et al. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1984**, 25, 3155;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  2.47 (m, 2 H), 2.75 (t,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2 H), 6.21 (t,  $J$  = 4.8 Hz, 2 H), 6.87 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.07 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1 H), 7.31 (m, 1 H).

30

**Step 2: 2-Butyl-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic Acid**

The title compound was prepared according to the procedure outlined in Example 7, employing 4-(1-hexynyl)-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic acid on Wang resin

35

(prepared according to Example 1) and 5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl trifluoromethanesulfonate;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  0.80 (t, 3 H), 1.22 (m, 2 H), 1.60 (m, 2 H), 2.39 (m, 2 H), 2.70 (m, 4 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 6.02 (t, 1 H), 6.32 (d, 1 H),

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6.85 (d, 1 H), 6.98 (m, 1 H), 7.08 (d, 1 H), 7.50 (d, 1 H), 7.95 (s, 1 H), 11.40 (s, 1 H).

Example 10

5      **2-{{(4-Methoxy-benzoyl)-methyl-amino]-methyl}-3-(benzocyclohept-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic Acid}**

**Step 1: Benzocyclohept-1-enyl Trifluoromethanesulfonate**

The title compound was prepared from benzosuberone according to the 10 procedure of Piers et al. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1984**, 25, 3155.

**Step 2: 2-{{(4-Methoxy-benzoyl)-methyl-amino]-methyl}-3-(benzo-cyclo-hept-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic Acid**

The title compound was prepared according to the procedure outlined in 15 Example 7, employing 4-[(3-(N-methyl-N-(4-methoxybenzoyl)-amino)-1-propynyl]-3-trifluoro-acetamidobenzoic acid on Wang resin (prepared according to Example 6) and benzocyclohept-1-enyl trifluoromethanesulfonate;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  1.98 (m, 2 H), 2.17 (m, 2 H), 2.75 (m, 2 H), 2.85 (s, 3 H), 3.78 (s, 3 H), 4.60 (br s, 2 H), 6.20 (m, 1 H), 6.95 (m, 3 H), 7.05 (m, 1 H), 7.20 (m, 1 H), 7.32 (d, 1 H), 7.40 (m, 20 3 H), 7.75 (m, 1 H), 8.05 (s, 1 H).

Example 11

**1-Benzyl-2-butyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclo-pent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic Acid**

25      To a suspension of 2-butyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid on Wang resin (100 mg; compound 7-1, prepared according to the procedure outlined in Example 7) in dimethylformamide (1.5 mL) was added sodium hydride (60% in mineral oil; 20 mg) and the mixture was stirred at room 30 temperature for 30 min. Benzyl bromide (0.1 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 3 h. The mixture was filtered, washed with water (1 x 1.5 mL), tetrahydrofuran (2 x 1.5 mL), dichloromethane (2 x 1.5 mL), and dried. The product was cleaved from the resin by treatment with 1:1 trifluoroacetic acid/dichloromethane for 1 h;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  0.76 (t, 3 H), 1.20 (m, 2 H), 1.98 (m, 2 H), 2.00 (m, 2 H), 2.68 (t, 2 H), 2.82 (m, 4 H), 3.43 (s, 3 H), 5.56 (s, 2 H), 6.96 (d, 2 H), 7.30 (m, 4 H), 7.60 (d, 1 H), 7.90 (s, 1 H).

- 25 -

Example 12

**1-Ethoxycarbonylmethyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-phenyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic Acid**

5 To a suspension of 3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-phenyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid on Wang resin (100 mg; compound 7-3, prepared according to the procedure outlined in Example 7) in dimethylformamide (1.5 mL) was added sodium hydride (60% in mineral oil; 20 mg) and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min. Ethyl bromoacetate (0.1 mL) was added and the mixture was  
10 stirred for 3 h. The mixture was filtered, washed with water (1 x 1.5 mL), tetrahydrofuran (2 x 1.5 mL), dichloromethane (2 x 1.5 mL), and dried. The product was cleaved from the resin by treatment with 1:1 trifluoroacetic acid/dichloromethane for 1 h;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  1.13 (t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 3 H), 1.80 (m, 2 H), 2.50 (m, 2 H), 2.63 (m, 2 H), 3.33 (s, 3 H), 4.09 (q,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 7.30 (m, 2 H), 7.39 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.48 (m, 3 H), 7.71 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 8.11 (s, 1 H).

15

Example 13

**1-Benzyl-2-butyl-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic Acid**

20 To a suspension of 2-butyl-3-(5-methoxy-3,4-dihydro-naphthalen-1-yl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid on Wang resin (100 mg; prepared according to the procedure outlined in Example 9) in dimethylformamide (1.5 mL) was added sodium hydride (60% in mineral oil; 20 mg) and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min. Benzyl bromide (0.1 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 3 h. The mixture was filtered, washed with water (1 x 1.5 mL), tetrahydrofuran (2 x 1.5 mL), dichloromethane (2 x 1.5 mL), and dried. The product was cleaved from the resin by treatment with 1:1 trifluoroacetic acid/dichloromethane for 1 h;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  0.67 (t,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 3 H), 1.16 (t,  $J$  = 6.7 Hz, 2 H), 1.34 (t,  $J$  = 6.7 Hz, 2 H), 2.42 (m, 2 H), 2.55 (m, 2 H), 2.80 (m, 2 H), 3.82 (s, 3 H), 5.59 (s, 2 H), 6.12 (t, 1 H), 6.32 (d,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 1 H), 6.88 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.00 (m, 3 H), 7.15 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.30 (m, 3 H), 7.55 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1 H), 7.94 (s, 1 H).

25

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Example 14

**1-Ethoxycarbonylmethyl-2-{[(4-methoxy-benzoyl)-methyl-amino]-methyl}-3-(benzocyclohept-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic Acid**

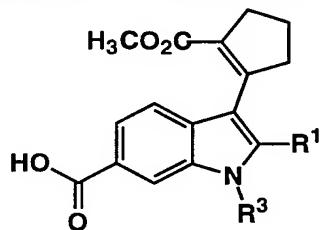
5 To a suspension of 2-{[(4-methoxy-benzoyl)-methyl-amino]-methyl}-3-(benzocyclohept-1-enyl)-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid on Wang resin (100 mg; prepared according to the procedure outlined in Example 10) in dimethylformamide (1.5 mL) was added sodium hydride (60% in mineral oil; 20 mg) and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min. Ethyl bromoacetate (0.1 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 3 h. The mixture was filtered, washed with water (1 x 1.5 mL), tetrahydrofuran (2 x 1.5 mL), dichloromethane (2 x 1.5 mL), and dried. The product was cleaved from the resin by treatment with 1:1 trifluoroacetic acid/dichloromethane for 1 h; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  1.15 (t, 3 H), 2.10 (m, 2 H), 2.20 (m, 2 H), 2.70 (s, 3 H), 2.80 (m, 2 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 4.05 (q, 2 H), 4.80 (s, 2 H), 5.20 (br s, 2 H), 6.35 (t, 1 H), 6.80 (d, 1 H), 6.97 (d, 2 H), 7.08 (m, 2 H), 7.20 (m, 1 H), 7.38 (d, 2 H), 7.55 (d, 1 H), 7.80 (d, 1 H), 7.95 (s, 1 H), 11.40 (br s, 1 H).

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Example 15

**Parallel Synthesis of Forty Two Compounds**



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$R^3 \rightarrow$	$CH_3$	$\text{CO}_2Et$	$\text{CO}_2H$	$\text{CO}_2CH_3$	$\text{CO}_2C_6H_5$	H	H
$R^1 \downarrow$							
$\text{CH}_3$	<b>1A</b>	<b>1B</b>	<b>1C</b>	<b>1D</b>	<b>1E</b>	<b>1F</b>	<b>1Q</b>
	<b>2A</b>	<b>2B</b>	<b>2C</b>	<b>2D</b>	<b>2E</b>	<b>2F</b>	<b>2Q</b>
	<b>3A</b>	<b>3B</b>	<b>3C</b>	<b>3D</b>	<b>3E</b>	<b>3F</b>	<b>3Q</b>
	<b>4A</b>	<b>4B</b>	<b>4C</b>	<b>4D</b>	<b>4E</b>	<b>4F</b>	<b>4Q</b>
	<b>5A</b>	<b>5B</b>	<b>5C</b>	<b>5D</b>	<b>5E</b>	<b>5F</b>	<b>5Q</b>
	<b>6A</b>	<b>6B</b>	<b>6C</b>	<b>6D</b>	<b>6E</b>	<b>6F</b>	<b>6Q</b>

5       Forty two compounds were synthesized in parallel in a HPS-1 multiple peptide synthesizer with forty two reaction vessels arranged in a 6 x 7 matrix (CoshiSoft-/PeptiSearch, Tuscon, AZ). One of each of the resins prepared according to Examples 1-6 was placed in seven reaction vessels (in one row) in the synthesizer (100 mg per vessel, 0.06 mmol): 4-(1-hexynyl)-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic acid on Wang resin in row 1; 4-cyclopentylacetylenyl-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic acid on Wang resin in row 2; 4-(2-phenylacetylenyl)-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic acid on Wang resin in row 3; 10 4-[(4-phenyl)-1-butynyl]-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic acid on Wang resin in row 4; 4-[(5-(3-carbomethoxy)phenoxy)-1-pentynyl]-3-trifluoroacetamidobenzoic acid on Wang resin in row 5; and 4-[(3-(N-methyl-N-(4-methoxybenzoyl)-amino)-1-propynyl]-3-trifluoro-acetamidobenzoic acid on Wang resin in row 6. To each vessel was added potassium carbonate (70 mg), a solution of (2-carboxymethyl)-1-15 cyclopentenyl trifluoro-methanesulfonate (82 mg, 0.30 mmol; prepared according to Piers et al. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1984**, 25, 3155) in dimethylformamide (1.0 mL), and a solution of tetrakis-(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) in dimethylformamide (1.0 mL). The synthesizer was rotated at room temperature on a Roto-Torque heavy duty rotator (Cole-Parmer) for 18 h. The mixtures were filtered and the resin in each vessel was 20 washed with water (1 x 1.5 mL), dimethylformamide (3 x 1.5 mL), and dichloromethane (4 x 1.5 mL). The resins were dried under vacuum.

25       The 6 products from the last column (1Q to 6Q) were cleaved from the solid support for characterization according to the following procedure. To each vessel was added 3:1 trifluoroacetic acid/dichloromethane (1.5 mL). The HPS-1 synthesizer was left standing for 1 h, and the solutions were filtered into 1 dram vials. The resin in each vessel was washed with dichloromethane (1 mL) and diethyl ether (1 mL). The solutions were concentrated under a nitrogen stream and dried over  $P_2O_5$  under vacuum. Yields for the products were: 1Q: 7 mg, 2Q: 16 mg, 3Q: 13 mg, 4Q: 14 mg, 30 5Q: 17 mg, 6Q: 21 mg. The  $^1H$  NMR spectra of these 6 samples were consistent with the spectra for the compounds listed in Example 7. The 6 products in column F (1F, 2F, 3F, 4F, 5F, 6F) were then cleaved according to the same procedure and retained for biological testing.

35       The resin in the 30 remaining vessels (columns A through E and rows 1 through 6) were suspended in DMF (1.5 mL per vessel) and approximately 20 mg of sodium hydride (60% suspension in mineral oil) was added to each vessel. After 30 min, methyl iodide was added to the vessels in column A: 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, and 6A (0.1 mL per vessel), ethyl bromoacetate was added to the vessels in column B: 1B, 2B,

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3B, 4B, 5B, and 6B (0.1 mL per vessel), tert-butyl bromoacetate was added to the vessels in column C: 1C, 2C, 3C, 4C, 5C, and 6C (0.1 mL per vessel), 4-methoxycarbonylbenzyl bromide was added to the vessels in column D: 1D, 2D, 3D, 4D, 5D, and 6D (150 mg per vessel), and 4-phenylbenzyl bromide was added to the vessels in column E: 1E, 2E, 3E, 4E, 5E, and 6E (0.1 mL per vessel). The synthesizer was rotated every 30 min for about 5 min, for a total reaction time of 3 h. The mixtures were filtered and the resin in each vessel was washed with water (1 x 1.5 mL), tetrahydrofuran (2 x 1.5 mL), and dichloromethane (2 x 1.5 mL). The resins were dried under vacuum. The products from the 30 vessels were cleaved from the resins according to the procedure described above. The products from the 30 vessels were analyzed by thin layer chromatography. One major product was observed for the vessels from columns A, C, D, and E. In the vessels from column B, the alkylation reaction with tert-butyl bromoacetate only went to about 50% completion. Yields for the 30 products were:

15

1A: 7 mg	1B: 10 mg	1C: 0 mg	1D: 14 mg	1E: 10 mg
2A: 9 mg	2B: 15 mg	2C: 17 mg	2D: 10 mg	2E: 10 mg
3A: 13 mg	3B: 19 mg	3C: 19 mg	3D: 19 mg	3E: 19 mg
4A: 15 mg	4B: 16 mg	4C: 18 mg	4D: 19 mg	4E: 12 mg
5A: 15 mg	5B: 18 mg	5C: 22 mg	5D: 12 mg	5E: 15 mg
6A: 20 mg	6B: 20 mg	6C: 20 mg	6D: 24 mg	6E: 20 mg

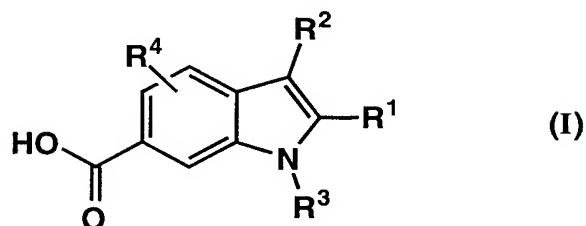
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**CLAIMS**

We claim:

1. A compound having the formula

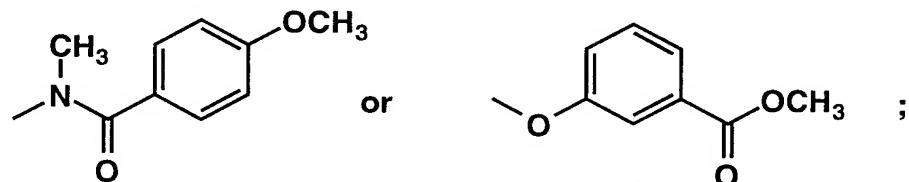
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wherein:

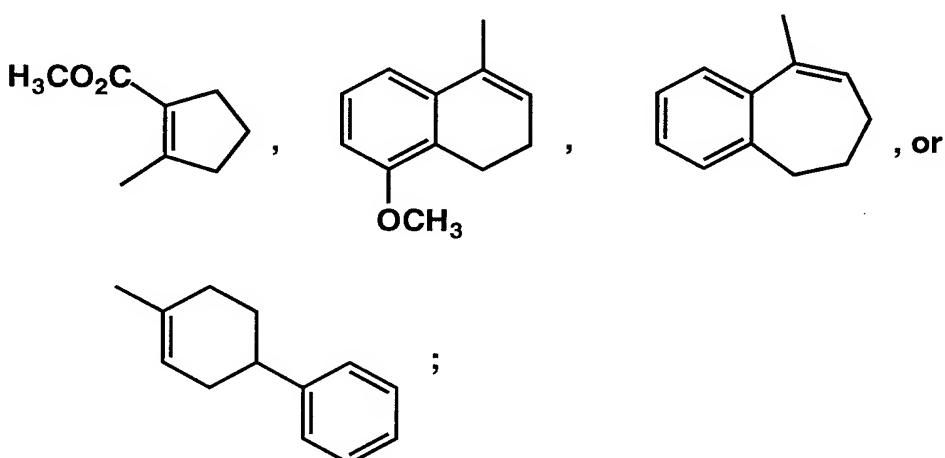
R<sup>1</sup> is straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, branched chain alkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, phenyl, phenylalkyl of 7 to 12 carbon atoms, or straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms substituted with

10



R<sup>2</sup> is straight chain alkenyl of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, branched chain alkenyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkenyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, phenyl,

15



R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen, straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms optionally substituted with one COOR<sup>5</sup>, branched chain alkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 7

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carbon atoms, or phenylalkyl of 7 to 12 carbon atoms optionally substituted with one COOR<sup>5</sup>, phenyl, or acyl group;

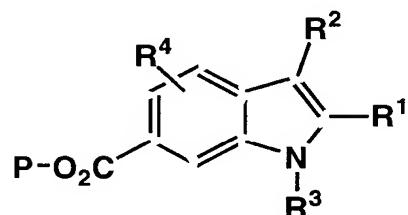
5 R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, bromo, nitro, straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, branched chain alkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, or alkoxy of 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

10 R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen, straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or phenylalkyl of 7 to 12 carbon atoms;

10 and all crystalline forms and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, the enantiomers thereof, the racemic mixtures thereof.

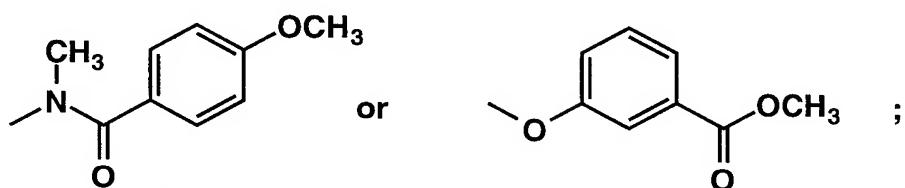
15 2. A compound according to claim 1 which is 1-ethoxycarbonylmethyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-phenyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

20 3. A combinatorial library comprising a plurality of different indole-6-carboxylic acid compounds and derivatives thereof, each compound linked covalently to a solid support P, according to the formula



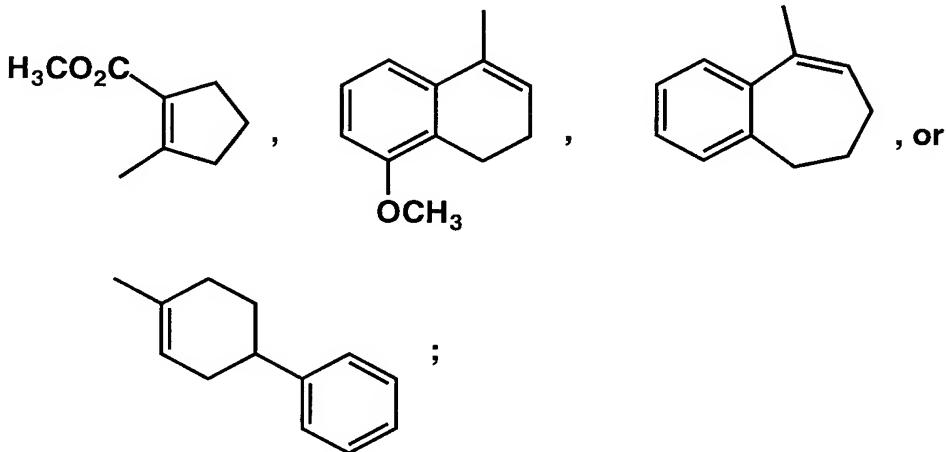
wherein:

25 R<sup>1</sup> is straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, branched chain alkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, phenyl, phenylalkyl of 7 to 12 carbon atoms, or straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms substituted with



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$R^2$  is straight chain alkenyl of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, branched chain alkenyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkenyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, phenyl,



5      $R^3$  is hydrogen, straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms optionally substituted with one COOR<sup>5</sup>, branched chain alkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, or phenylalkyl of 7 to 12 carbon atoms optionally substituted with one COOR<sup>5</sup>, phenyl, or acyl group;

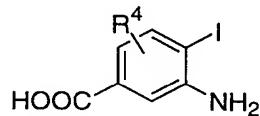
10     $R^4$  is hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, bromo, nitro, straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, branched chain alkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, or alkoxy of 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

15     $R^5$  is hydrogen, straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or phenylalkyl of 7 to 12 carbon atoms;

and all crystalline forms and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, the enantiomers thereof, the racemic mixtures thereof.

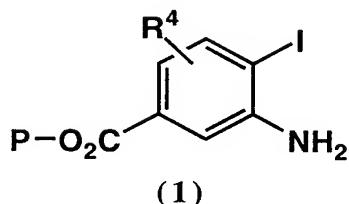
20    4.     A combinatorial library according to claim 3 wherein each of said compounds is prepared by the method which comprises:

a)     attaching a 3-amino-4-iodo-benzoic acid of the formula



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or an alkaline metal salt thereof to a solid support P to produce a compound of formula (1)

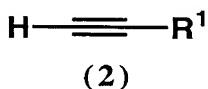


5

wherein R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, bromo, nitro, straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, branched chain alkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, or alkoxy of 1 to 6 carbon atoms and P is a solid support, and

10

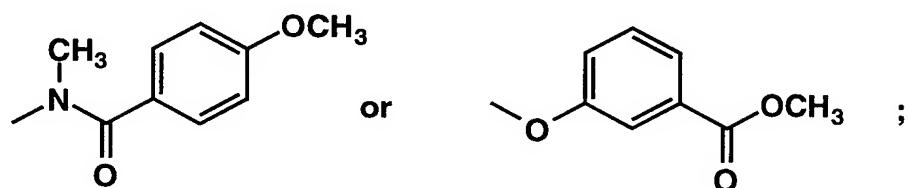
b) reacting said compound of formula (1) with a terminal alkyne of formula (2)



15

wherein R<sup>1</sup> is straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, branched chain alkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, phenyl, phenylalkyl of 7 to 12 carbon atoms, or straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms substituted with

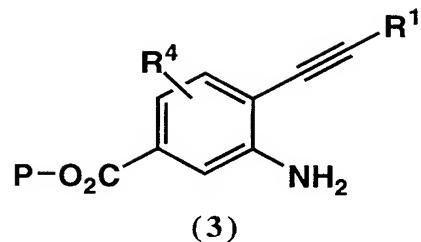
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25

in the presence of a homogenous palladium(0) or palladium(II) catalyst such as tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) or bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(II) chloride, copper(I) iodide, and a secondary or tertiary amine base such as diethylamine or triethylamine in a polar aprotic solvent at ambient temperature to produce a compound of formula (3)

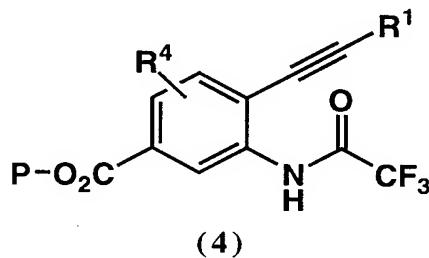
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wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and P are as defined above; and

5

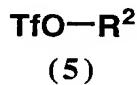
c) reacting said compound of formula (3) with trifluoroacetic anhydride and an aromatic amine base such as pyridine or a tertiary amine base such as triethylamine in dichloromethane to produce a compound of formula (4)



wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and P are as defined above; and

10

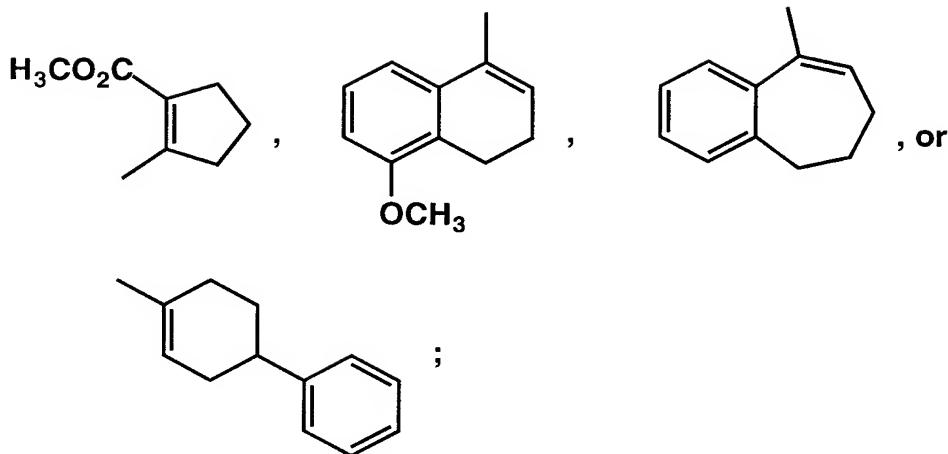
15 d) reacting said compound of formula (4) with a vinyl trifluoromethanesulfonate of formula (5)



20

wherein R<sup>2</sup> is straight chain alkenyl of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, branched chain alkenyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkenyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, phenyl,

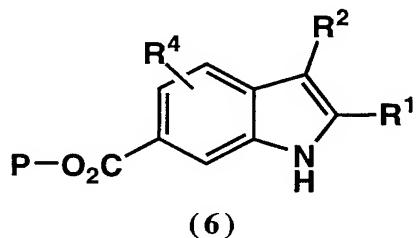
- 34 -



5 in the presence of a homogenous palladium(0) or palladium(II) catalyst such as tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) or bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium-

(II) chloride, and an inorganic base such as potassium carbonate or sodium

carbonate in a polar aprotic solvent to produce a compound of formula (6)



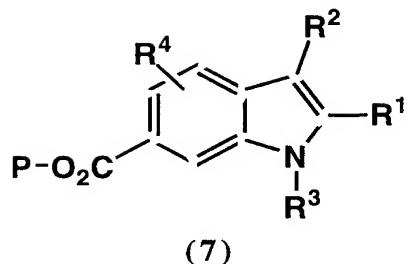
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wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and P are as defined above; and

e) in the case where R<sup>3</sup> is not hydrogen, reacting said compound of formula (6) with an alkylating agent R<sup>3</sup>X, where X is a suitable leaving group and R<sup>3</sup> is straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms optionally substituted with one COOR<sup>5</sup> group where R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen, straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or phenylalkyl of 7 to 12 carbon atoms; branched chain alkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, or phenylalkyl of 7 to 12 carbon atoms optionally substituted with one COOR<sup>5</sup> group, phenyl, or acyl group, in the presence of an alkaline metal or alkaline earth 15 hydride such as sodium hydride in a polar aprotic solvent to produce a compound of formula (7)

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- 35 -



wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and P are as defined above.

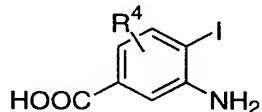
5 5. A combinatorial library according to claim 3 wherein the solid support P is polystyrene crosslinked with divinylbenzene and functionalized with a linker such as hydroxymethylphenoxy.

10 6. A combinatorial library according to claim 3 wherein the solid support P is Wang resin.

7. A method for the solid phase synthesis of the compounds of Claim 1 comprising:

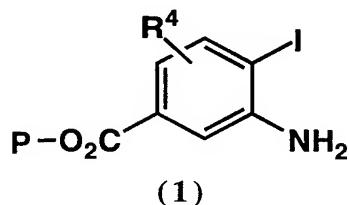
a) attaching an R<sup>4</sup> substituted 3-amino-4-iodo-benzoic acid of the formula

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or an alkaline metal salt thereof to a solid support P to produce a compound of formula (1)

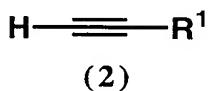
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25 wherein R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, bromo, nitro, straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, branched chain alkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, or alkoxy of 1 to 6 carbon atoms; and

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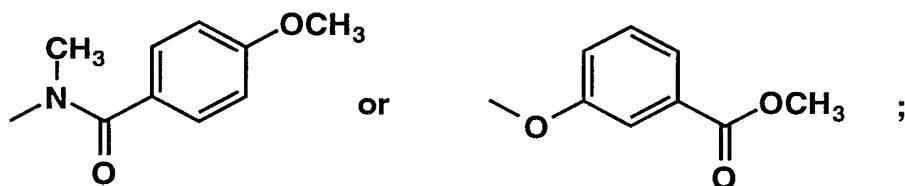
b) reacting said compound of formula (1) with a terminal alkyne of formula (2)



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wherein  $\text{R}^1$  is straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, branched chain alkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, phenyl, phenylalkyl of 7 to 12 carbon atoms, or straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms substituted with

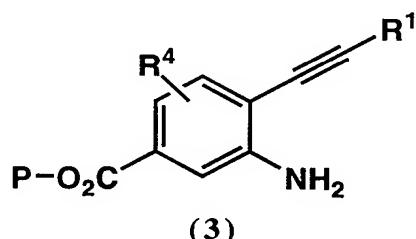
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in the presence of a homogenous palladium(0) or palladium(II) catalyst such as tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) or bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(II) chloride, copper(I) iodide, and a secondary or tertiary amine base such as diethylamine or triethylamine in a polar aprotic solvent at ambient temperature to produce a compound of formula (3)

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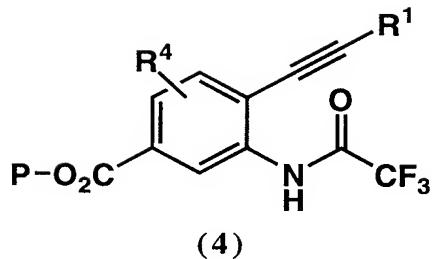


wherein  $\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^4$ , and  $\text{P}$  are as defined above; and

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c) reacting said compound of formula (3) with trifluoroacetic anhydride and an aromatic amine base such as pyridine or a tertiary amine base such as triethylamine in dichloromethane to produce a compound of formula (4)

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wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and P are as defined above; and

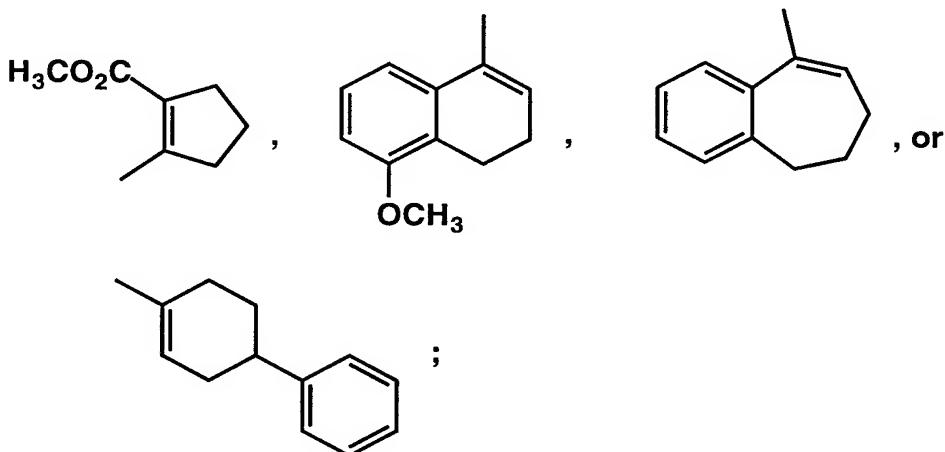
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d) reacting said compound of formula (4) with a vinyl trifluoromethanesulfonate of formula (5)



(5)

10 wherein R<sup>2</sup> is straight chain alkenyl of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, branched chain alkenyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkenyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, phenyl,

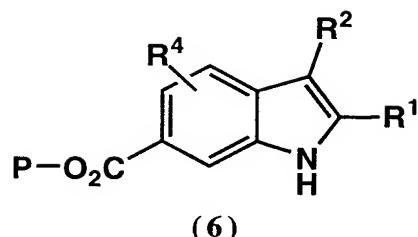


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in the presence of a homogenous palladium(0) or palladium(II) catalyst such as tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) or bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(II) chloride, and an inorganic base such as potassium carbonate or sodium carbonate in a polar aprotic solvent to produce a compound of formula (6)

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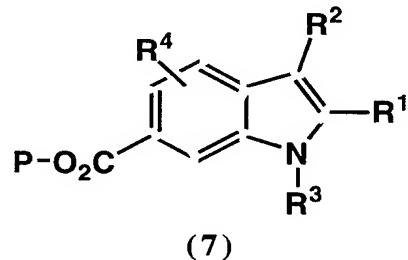
wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and P are as defined above;

5

e) in the case where R<sup>3</sup> is not hydrogen, reacting said compound of formula (6) with an alkylating agent R<sup>3</sup>X, where X is a suitable leaving group and R<sup>3</sup> is straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms optionally substituted with one COOR<sup>5</sup> group where R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen, straight chain alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or phenylalkyl of 7 to 12 carbon atoms; branched chain alkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, or phenylalkyl of 7 to 12 carbon atoms optionally substituted with one COOR<sup>5</sup> group, phenyl, or acyl group, in the presence of an alkaline metal or alkaline earth hydride such as sodium hydride in a polar aprotic solvent to produce a compound of formula (7)

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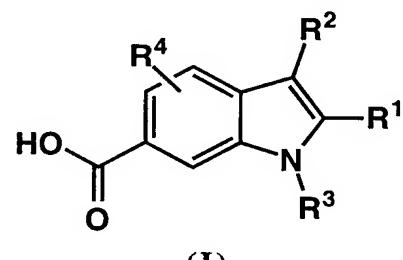
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wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and P are as defined above; and

20

f) reacting said compound of formula (7) with a cleaving reagent such as trifluoroacetic acid to produce a compound of formula (I)



wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, and R<sup>4</sup> are as defined above.

25

8. The method according to claim 7 wherein the solid support used is polystyrene crosslinked with divinylbenzene and functionalized with a linker such as a hydroxy-methylphenoxy group.

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9. The method according to claim 7 wherein the solid support used is Wang resin.

10. The method according to claim 7 wherein the solid support used is chloro Wang resin and the R<sup>4</sup> substituted 3-amino-4-iodo-benzoic acid is in the form of an alkaline metal salt of the acid.

11. The method according to claim 10 wherein the alkaline metal salt of the R<sup>4</sup> substituted 3-amino-4-iodo-benzoic acid used is the cesium salt.

15 12. A method of treating conditions associated with estrogen deficiency in a mammal which comprises administration to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

20 13. The method of treatment according to claim 10 wherein the therapeutically effective compound is 1-ethoxycarbonylmethyl-3-(2-methoxycarbonyl-cyclopent-1-enyl)-2-phenyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

25 14. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

15. A compound according to claim 1 or a composition according to claim 14, for use as a medicament.

30 16. A compound or composition according to claim 15 for use as a medicament for treating conditions associated with estrogen deficiency in a mammal.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inte onal Application No  
PCT/US 98/17236

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 6 C07D209/18 A61K31/40 C07D209/12 C07D209/14 C07D209/08

According to International Patent Classification(IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 6 C07D A61K C08D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category <sup>o</sup>	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0 782 989 A (KYOWA HAKKO KOGYO CO., LTD.) 9 July 1997 see claims ----	1,15,16
X	MARIA CHIARA FAGNOLA ET AL.: "Solid-phase Synthesis of Indoles Using the Palladium-Catalysed Coupling of Alkynes with Iodoaniline Derivatives." TETRAHEDRON LETTERS., vol. 38, no. 13, - 31 March 1997 pages 2307-2310, XP002083115 OXFORD GB * the complete document * ----	3,4,7
P, X	WO 97 44319 A (PHARMACIA & UPJOHN S.P.A.) 27 November 1997 * complete document * ----	3,4,7

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

### <sup>o</sup> Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance  
"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date  
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)  
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means  
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the international search report

3 November 1998

20/11/1998

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Authorized officer

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 98/ 17236

### Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claims Nos.: 12 - 13  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
Remark: Although claims 12 - 13  
are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal  
body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged  
effects of the compound/composition.
2.  Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such  
an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3.  Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

### Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking(Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all  
searchable claims.
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment  
of any additional fee.
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report  
covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is  
restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

#### Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

## Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 98/17236

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 782989	A 09-07-1997	AU 6370196 A CA 2199978 A WO 9703965 A	18-02-1997 06-02-1997 06-02-1997
WO 9744319	A 27-11-1997	EP 0854865 A	29-07-1998